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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/687,099	10/12/2000	Tam D. Bui	AUS9-2000-0390-US1	9520
35525	7590	11/05/2004	EXAMINER	
IBM CORP (YA) C/O YEE & ASSOCIATES PC P.O. BOX 802333 DALLAS, TX 75380			BURGESS, BARBARA N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2157	

DATE MAILED: 11/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/687,099	BUI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Barbara N Burgess	2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM  
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 August 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                            2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

**DETAILED ACTION**

This Office Action is in response to Amendments filed August 4, 2004. Claims 1-24 are presented for further examination.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103() as being unpatentable over Townsend et al. (hereinafter "Townsend", 5,974,562) in view of Yanagidate et al. (hereinafter "Yan", US Patent No 6,128,664).

As per claims 1, 9, 17, Townsend discloses a method, computer product, and system of synchronizing device addresses between two networks within a data processing system, the method comprising:

- Assigning a plurality of first unique addresses to each of said plurality of devices for said first network (column 2, lines 46-48, 60-62, column 4, lines 5-8, 29-30, 32-35, column 5, lines 4-10, 36-37, 44-46);
- Determining a plurality of second unique addresses assigned to each of the plurality of devices for said second network (column 2, lines 46-48, 60-62, column 4, lines 5-9, column 5, lines 4-10, 14-16, 36-37, 44-45, 47-51). ; and

- Responsive to a determination that one of the plurality of first unique addresses is not identical to one of the plurality of second unique addresses for one of the plurality of devices, reassigning a new unique address to the one of the plurality of devices for the first network such that the new unique address is used to access the one of the plurality of devices by the first network and is identical to the one of the plurality of second unique addresses that is used to access the one of the plurality of devices by the second network (column 2, lines 25-30, 51-60, 65-67, column 5, lines 23-32, 56-67, column 6, lines 1-10).

Townsend does not explicitly disclose:

- Coupling a plurality of devices together utilizing a first network and concurrently coupling said plurality of devices together utilizing a second network, said first network being separate from said second network;
- Accessing said plurality of devices utilizing said first and second networks concurrently.

However, Yan discloses an address-translating device that provides a correlating network address for a terminal located on a second network. The second network may be a global network like the Internet. However, to obtain the terminal's correlating address for a private network, the address-translating device is relied upon (column 3, lines 45-60, column 4, lines 40-60).

Therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have found it obvious to implement or incorporate coupling devices together

utilizing first and second networks concurrently in Townsend in order to obtain the correlating address for the terminal located on either network.

As per claims 2, 10, and 18, Townsend discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17, wherein the device is an input/output drawer (column 1, lines 12-25, column 3, lines 40-67).

As per claims 3, 11, and 19, Townsend discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the device is expansion tower (column 1, lines 12-25, column 3, lines 40-67).

As per claims 4, 12, and 20, Townsend further discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the first unique address corresponds to an SPCN system address (column 2, lines 18-20, column 4, lines 3-35, 58-67).

As per claims 5, 13, and 21, Townsend further discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the second unique address corresponds to an RIO system address (column 2, lines 18-20, column 4, lines 3-35, 58-67).

As per claims 6, 14, and 22, Townsend discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the device is a CD-ROM drive (column 1, lines 12-25, column 3, lines 40-67).

As per claims 7, 15, and 23, Townsend discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the device is a DVD ROM drive (column 1, lines 12-25, column 3, lines 40-67).

As per claims 8, 16, and 24, Townsend discloses the method, computer product, and system as recited in claims 1, 9, and 17 wherein the device is a hard drive (column 1, lines 12-25, column 3, lines 40-67).

### ***Response to Arguments***

#### **The Office notes the following arguments:**

- (a) Townsend does not teach devices coupled together using a first network and second network where devices are accessed concurrently using the first and second networks.
- (b) Townsend does not teach reassigning a new address to a particular device when the first address assigned to that device for a first network is not identical to the second address that is assigned to that device for the second network.

#### **In response to:**

(a)-(b)      Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

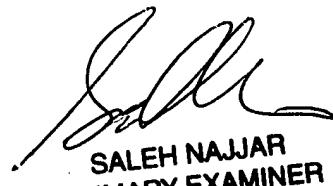
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara N Burgess whose telephone number is (571) 272-3996. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00am-4:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Barbara N Burgess  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2157

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SALEH NAJJAR  
PRIMARY EXAMINER